

P. M. ROAD IS SEEKING ANN ARBOR

NEW YORK REPORTS INDICATE
THAT ROADS MAY SOON BE
CONSOLIDATED.

Logical, Opinion Of Railway Men

A dispatch from New York to the Saginaw News Courier is to the effect that a report is current in the financial district that the Pere Marquette Railway Company is angling for control of the Ann Arbor Railroad, a 117-mile line running from Toledo to Frankfort.

According to the New York report, advances have reached that city from Boston that the control will be obtained by the purchase of 51 per cent of the common and preferred stocks of the Ann Arbor. It is stated that negotiations have reached a definite stage, but that the price at which the transfer will be accomplished has not yet been made public.

The Ann Arbor Railroad has \$4,000,000 5 per cent noncumulative preferred and \$3,250,000 common stock of \$100 par value outstanding. For many years control of the property has been in the hands of Newman Erb, president and certain Cincinnati interests.

The New York report says that the purchase of the Ann Arbor by the Pere Marquette would be a logical move for both companies, according to opinion in railway quarters. The lines have many points in common in the state and have the joint use of the Toledo terminals. Both carriers operate car ferries across Lake Michigan, making connections across the lake with many railroads.

It has been estimated that through a consolidation of the two roads a saving of from \$150,000 to \$200,000 would result from the elimination of the duplication of ferry service alone.

Time to Lay Off From the Retailer

If there is any class of people who have been hard hit by the recent change in conditions, it is the retail merchant. We hear much of the distress of the farmer, and the strain the bankers have been laboring under is of knowledge to all. But have you heard of any general movement to assist the retail merchant in these times of stress? Yet no line of business has been hit harder than that of the local retail merchant, the man you meet every day and the one who supplies your daily needs.

When the slump in prices came, it was the retail dealer who carried the load. The manufacturers and jobbers were hit hard, it is true, but they were in many cases short on supplies and their loss, while heavy, was not in proportion to the small retail dealer's. In spite of this well known fact the retail merchant has not only not come in for any special consideration, but has been heaped with a lot of unmerited abuse.

How many times one has run across such statements as, "wholesale prices have come down but the retail dealers do not seem to have found it out?" We have met with this statement in trade journals and business reviews of weekly and daily papers. It has appeared so often that many have accepted it as true. Yet if any purchasers of family supplies will compare the prices paid today and those paid two years ago, they will know that it is far from the truth.

During the past year the invoice price of goods on the shelves of the retail merchant has been reduced from 20 to 40 per cent. On a \$20,000 stock this means a loss of from \$1,000 to \$8,000. It means that the merchant has taken a loss of that much on his goods. Is it any wonder that many merchants have been forced to the wall?

What is more, the overhead cost of doing business is greater than it was before the war. Wages of help have not fallen to that of the pre-war period. Rents in many cases are higher, and fuel and lights are higher. All these things combine to make the retail merchant's path anything but a rose strewn highway.

If help comes to the farmer, indirectly it will come to the merchant, but in the meantime he is struggling to keep the business world afloat by making sacrifice sales and taking his loss without any hue and cry. So just remember the local merchant has his troubles and is still your friend—that he is doing his share to bring about better conditions and help the old world back onto its feet.

It will take time, but we believe things are slightly on the upgrade and if everyone will do his part and go to work all will be well. Prosperity will not come to a few. It must come to all and the man who insists on excessive wages while condemning the merchant who is trying to save his business life, is not going to profit by his stand.—Manson, Iowa, Journal.

FIRE THIS MORNING
The Alma fire department was called to the home of John Sawyer, 721 First avenue, this morning by a small roof fire. It was extinguished with a small loss.

Local Happenings Tersely Told

George Sharrar was in Owosso Saturday on business.

You will find the best bread in Butter Cup wrappers 02tf

Rev. J. A. Mulvey was a Saginaw visitor last Thursday.

James Gibbs of Ithaca was in the city on business Tuesday.

Rev. E. W. Dettweiler of Six Lakes was in Alma Monday on business.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Davies spent Saturday afternoon in Mt. Pleasant.

Mr. and Mrs. Lester Meade of Mt. Pleasant spent Sunday with friends.

John T. Mathews of Ithaca transacted business here Monday and Tuesday.

For general trucking call F. M. Richards' big truck. Phone 414.—advertisement.

A large variety of St. Patrick's and Easter candies at the De Luxe.—advertisement 1w

Dr. E. G. Sluyter, osteopathic physician, State Savings Bank Building, Alma, both phones. 57-4f

Mrs. W. H. Parr of Vineland, New Jersey, is visiting friends and relatives for a few days.

Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Giles and family returned Saturday from their winter's sojourn in Texas and Florida.

The Presbyterian Ladies' Aid will meet Tuesday, with Mrs. Gelston at the manse. A full attendance is desired.

Mothers send your children to the story hour at the Alma Reading Room Saturday morning from 10 to 11 o'clock.

Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Blair, who have been visiting for the past few weeks at Middleton and Pompeii, returned home Monday.

Romaine Clark of Ithaca, prosecuting attorney of Genesee county, was in the city on business connected with his office Friday.

Messrs. Arthur and Charles Rhoads of Wheeler were in Alma on business, and also attended the revival meeting at the Baptist church.

Rev. C. L. Wood conducted Quarterly meeting in the United Brethren church at Fenwick last Sunday in the absence of Rev. S. J. Potter.

St. Alma Shrine No. 26, W. S. of J. will hold a regular meeting Tuesday evening, March 21, at the Masonic Temple. All members are urged to be present at 7:30.

The Misses Pearl and Bernice Hooper, who are attending Mt. Pleasant Normal this year, spent the week end at the home of their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Hooper.

E. J. Decker of Chicago, a former resident of this city and employee of The Republic Motor Truck Company Inc., visited with Alma friends the latter part of last week.

Arden S. Johnson, a graduate of Alma College with the class of 1915, has accepted a position at Lansing as community secretary in connection with the Y. W. C. A.

See the late C. In Ladies' Spring and Summer Oxfords and Pumps with rubber heels, from \$2.95 to \$4.95, in Robinson's shoe window on State street, Alma, Mich.—advertisement.

The Alma fire department was called to the home of Carl Gallagher on Woodworth avenue shortly before

1:00 p. m. today by a small roof blaze. The fire was extinguished with little loss.

Harry Myers of Pittsburgh, Pa., has been visiting with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Myers of this city for the past week. Mr. Myers contemplates moving back to Alma in the near future.

The Honorable J. W. Holmes of Horton, an old resident of Alma for 28 years, returned to his home Tuesday after spending several days in Alma and Mt. Pleasant with his son, M. A. Holmes.

A large number of local basket ball fans went to Mt. Pleasant Friday night for the final game of the season for the Alma college aggregation, which played the Central State Normals that evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Chester Benedict returned to their home in Alma the first of the week after having spent the winter months with their daughter and husband, Mr. and Mrs. Malcolm Smith, in Redlands, California.

Rev. E. E. Shouffer, pastor of the Baptist church, returned last Thursday from assisting in the Simultaneous Evangelistic and Forward Step Campaign of the Kalamazoo Association. He reports a successful two weeks' work.

Workmen are busy redecorating the Economy Shoe store this week, getting the place in trim for the spring season just ahead. The store, which has always been a neat, inviting place, is taking on a much more refined atmosphere as the new work progresses.

Another good sign of spring is the redecorating that is being done at the Poud Department store. The walls are being finished in a light tan, which reflects the light much better than the former background, and makes the store seem to have much more light than formerly.

A church frolic is planned for members and friends of the Presbyterian church for Friday night of this week. A glance at the calendar shows that Friday is St. Patrick's day. A committee of the Brotherhood who are planning the frolic state that the program, as prepared, is Irish clear through and would make St. Patrick himself feel at home. A broad Irish smile is the sole price of admission.

Dr. Sumner R. Vinton of Burma, who will speak at the Baptist church

Sunday morning at 10:00 o'clock is the son of a missionary, Dr. Vinton himself having been born in Burma. Twenty-two members of the Vinton family have been Baptist Missionaries. Mr. Vinton's daughter is a student volunteer. Many mission fields in different parts of the world have been visited by Dr. Vinton. He has a great message for these times. All who can should hear him.

Dr. Rullison and family and P.W. Benjamin and family of Lansing, spent the week end at the home of Mrs. V. H. Shepard. Mr. Shepard is also entertaining his mother, Mrs. Maria Shepard, of Flushing this week.

The Robinson Stores will hold a Style Show at the Alma Strand Theater on Tuesday and Wednesday nights, March 21 and 22. To make the occasion of maximum interest we have drawn upon every possible source. Apparel of distinction and beauty, fresh from the foremost makers of America will be shown. This wonderful collection of apparel and furnishings will be displayed by living models. Every lady who enjoys seeing new distinctive things will find interest in this showing. The Style Show will be an added attraction of one hour duration in addition to the regular pictures. The management of the Strand Theater have booked the following feature picture for Tuesday and Wednesday nights: Fred Stone in "The Duke of Chimney Butte." D. W. Robinson, Alma.—advertisement.

You'll find you've won. If you try a ton! QUALITY SERVICE RAPID DELIVERY HONEST WEIGHT

Get that ton of Coal from Fuller Coal Co. Successors to Brown-Ward Co. Phone 27 501 Wright Ave.

New here—old in Dixie Land of the long leaf pine gives the world a famous vapor rub for all cold troubles.

The famous healing odors of the long-leaf pine are to be had, even if you can't go South. For people subject to colds, a North Carolina druggist some years ago worked out a vaporizing salve, containing the very essence of pine sap, together with other healing penetrating vapors. This wonderful preparation, Vicks VapoRub, has been the

standby for years in Southern homes. Year by year and State by State its reputation has grown until today Vicks is the favorite treatment throughout the country for all cold troubles, croup, catarrh—neuragic pains, skin hurts and itching skin troubles. Druggists are stocked now. Get a good supply at once.

Just rub it on and breathe in the vapors

VICKS
VAPORUB
Over 17 Million Jars Used Yearly

Strand Theater Sunday and Monday



WILLIAM S. HART in "THE WHISTLE"

His days were ruled by the little tyrant on top of his town's factory. But his heart was ruled by his motherless boy. Then one day a broken, flying belt—and little Danny was gone! An eye for an eye, a son for a son!

So the soul-stricken father fled with the millionaire mill-owner's child and brought him up as his own. Worked for him, loved him, and—But the rest is a story you won't soon forget. A story made of the deepest, finest things that human life can know.

Build--Build

Buy Good Lumber at the Right Price

We have no green lumber for greenhorns to buy.

Don't pay any more than the materials are worth.

A great building boom is expected all over the country this spring and summer. This community will be booming the boom.

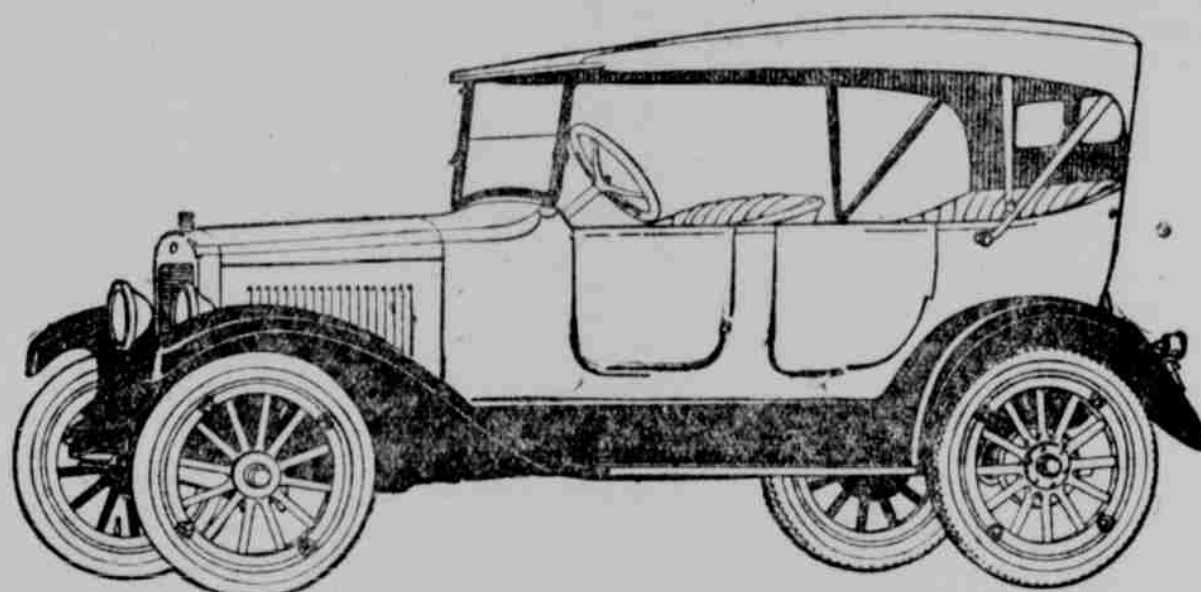
Get our estimates on every kind of building material. The estimate will cost you nothing. Buying your materials from us may save you a lot.

If the benefit of our long experience is worth anything to you in the way of advice it is yours for the asking.

Home Lumber & Fuel Co.

PHONE ONE-NINE

—Say you saw it advertised in The Record.



Price Goes Down! Quality Stays Up

The comfortable riding qualities of the Overland can be compared only with those of higher priced cars, for its spring base is 130 inches long—longer than the wheel base of most large heavy cars.

Its 27-horsepower motor drives the Overland farther on a gallon of gas than any other car. Owners report 25 miles is common.

Touring \$550, Roadster \$550, Coupe \$850, Sedan \$895; f. o. b. Toledo.

Overland Always a Good Investment, Now the Greatest Automobile Value in America
25 miles per gallon... Triplex Mather vanadium steel springs... 130-inch spring base—real comfort... 27 brake horsepower... Seamless all steel body... Finish, enamel, baked 450 degrees... Transmission, three-speed... Four safe, adjustable brakes... Auto-lite electric starter and lights... Electric horn on steering wheel... Stewart Warner speedometer on dash... Real one-man top... Demountable rims, tire carrier.

ALMA GARAGE
W. A. BORTON

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Overland
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